

SABEL

April 4th 1946

Dear Father Alayncis:

Will you please say two Masses for the repose of the soul of a very dear friend of mine who was buried yesterday? Do you have a Mass Card I could send?

I would like to have my young nephew, Donald Cooley enrolled in the Purgatorial Society, if it is for the living as well as the dead. He has just joined the Navy and I'd like him to have the benefit of so many Masses and prayers. Also may non-Catholics be enrolled? If so I'd like to enroll my father, Herbert Cooley. He is a Mason and eighty-four years old. He has never told me anything about himself, but some time ago he told Mr. Sabel that his father had been a Catholic. Later, his parents separated because his mother refused to raise my dad a Catholic.

My mother died when I was

twelve years old and my brother fourteen. My father made us go to Church on Sundays and sent me to a Catholic School. He kept all his promises to my mother. but he never discussed religion with us. I grew up with the idea that one shouldn't worry about another's religious beliefs. I said a few prayers that my father would become a Catholic, but that is all. I felt that he led a good life and that was that. Lately however, I have been worrying a great deal about his soul and have been praying harder for him, as it's almost impossible to carry on a conversation of any kind with him. In fact I've been thinking more about souls in general and pray for my family's and friends' souls where before I seemed to feel that as long as they appeared to lead a good life, it was no concern of mine. Now I pray that they will get closer to Our Lord and always put spiritual things above temporal ones.

My father and I have never been close and have never had many things in common - in fact we have always seemed to clash when together very much. He has lived away from home a lot - it has just been in the last few years that he has had to spend the winter months with us. Otherwise he lived alone in the mountains. After he is down here for a time he gets dissatisfied and the boys annoy him. He has melancholy spells and wishes he could die and says if he had nerve enough, he would kill himself. He even asked my brother to hit him on the head. I know I'm not very patient with him or anyone else at times but I am honestly trying to be - without much success though.

Father, don't think I'm complaining about my dad - he has always been very good to us. It is just that my conscience has been bothering me a great deal lately because I didn't try to bring him into the Church.

Also he isn't feeling well but won't see a doctor - says he doesn't believe in them. He insists on going

back the mountains soon. He isn't able to take proper care of himself up there alone - but there doesn't seem to be a thing we can do about it.

I'm to the point where I just had to confide in someone and so Father, you are the one. I hope you don't mind. I know your prayers will help me help him.

Now for a bit of bright news! My brother is very much better. He has ulcers of the stomach and at the time I wrote you, the doctor advised surgery unless he made a great improvement within two weeks. He seemed to pick up right after I wrote to you and has been steadily improving. Many thanks for your prayers, Father.

Also, last Sunday when we visited our son at school he told us he wants to be a Brother and study farming. He is so young, he is apt to change his mind, mind I know, but I sincerely hope not. From now on my prayers for him will be, that if he becomes a Brother, he will be a good one and eventually

even a perfect one, who knows. He wanted me to ask you to remember him in your prayers, sometime.

Mr. Label is well, but working very hard and putting in long hours. He sends his regards to you and says he never forgets you in his prayers. I do believe he'd do anything you told him to do.

I also ~~am~~ am trying to keep my promises as a Co-Missionary of yours. You will never know how grateful we are for all your prayers and graciousness.

I am feeling much better now and have a longing to go to daily Mass and Communion again. Mother, sometimes Confession is so hard for me, I just don't want to go. I force myself to go and sometimes I feel satisfied afterwards and sometimes I don't. I think it's having to tell the same things over and over. Seems like I'd overcome some of my pet sins, but that's not the case. I try, but seem to be in a rut. There is something

wrong somewhere, I know. When I think of all the things to be straightened out about me, I shudder. I seem to have been completely asleep concerning matters of my soul - so much time wasted. I have just recently become acquainted with the Holy Ghost and expect great things of Him. I'm also trying to learn to love Our Blessed Mother as I should.

This letter is long enough so I will stop right here. I've had to fight this pen all the way through, that's the reason for so many blots.

Sincerely,
Celeste A. Sabel.

A Blessed Easter



Hope You are well & hope
our Blessed Lady was good
to You on Her Feast.
I am prayerful wishes
I am, as ever Your Sister
In J. M. J. R. Mildred

G. M. J.

April 14th 46

Rev Aloysius Gallacurra C.M.F.

My Dear Brother in Christ

I'm thinking of You today
and of what may be Your great
and happy surprise at this Holy
Thursday how I wish I could
be in Your Holy Chapel present
at Your Mass, I'll be there in spirit
and I will keep You in my
Holy Communion on that Holy Day
for all Your intentions.
Wishing You the Holiest and
Happiest Easter, I will write later
when You have time to write
a line again, will You be so kind
as to send me a pair of Immaculate
scapulars.